WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) Patient Care Allowance has been sanctioned by this Ministry to Group 'C' and 'D' (Non-Ministerial) employees of the Central Government Hospitals and Hospitals under the Delhi Administration from 1.12.1987.

(b) Since Health Centres|Dispensaries do not fall under the definition of hospitals, their employees are not eligible for this allowance.

Bombay/Delhi-London flight

992. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:
SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Air India has started flights from Bombay|Delhi to London recently;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Pilots Guild of Air-India has opposed this move of introducing direct flight to London;

(c) if so, what are their demands;

(d) whether the Pilots Guild have also demanded extra crew and compensation for long flight on this route; and

(e) if so, what decision Air India has taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE AND THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI MOTI LAL VORA): (a) to (e) Air-India have started non-stop direct flights from Bombay to London and Delhi to London with effect from 15.2.1988. Pilots have opposed this move but are operating the flights under protest. In the meantime, the Indian Pilots Guild representing the Pilots of Air India have filed a writ petition in the Bombay High Court challenging the administrative order issued by Air India regarding the introduction of non-stop direct flights and the writ petition is under the consideration of the Court. Therefore, the matter is subjudice.

Refusal of accommodation in Indian Airlines flight to passengers with tickets

993. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:
SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news item that appeared in the Telegraph dated the 25th December, 1987 regarding refusal of accommodation to 45 girls with tickets from Calcutta to Port Blair by flight IC-285; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE AND THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI MOTI LAL VORA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Out of a party of 45 girls booked to travel on IC-285 of 24th December, 1987, only 30 seats could be confirmed on 18th November, 1987 and 15 seats were wait-listed. Subsequently, with a view to helping the group, the entire group was confirmed against the over-booking. However, due to computer system failure, the subsequent confirmation of 15 seats was not registered in the System. Consequently at the time of check-in only 30 seats could be offered. The group preferred not to travel separately. Indian Airlines operated an additional flight the next day to accommodate the group.

Departmental action against the employees by Air India involved in the silver scrapping

994. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY:
SHRI SURAJ PRASAD:
SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Vigilance Commission indicated Air India for not taking departmental action against some of its employees who were found guilty by the CBI indulging in extraction of